

# Top of the Hill

Volume 6, Number 3

MBA Junior School

April 2001

## A Date with Dad

By David Pass

This year's Father-Son Dinner was a great success. The gym was packed as tight as a Florida vs. UT game, the food was good, and the speakers were outstanding. There were also two great musical productions.

The dinner started off with Coach Bowers making a great play when he pulled John Voight and Til Bourland off the bench and threw each a football autographed by Steve Spurrier. (It's a good thing he has Ingle

for the real games.) Music followed with the Chorus singing two songs and the Jazz Band playing some Marvin Gaye. The Fathers Club

then recognized

both Rosie Paschall and everyone. Both Jesse Bull's and William Haywood Moxley as outstanding teachers.

We had four student speakers: Chris Bateman, Adam Brooks, Jesse Bull, and William Floyd. Chris Bateman

spoke about his father's influence on him academically. While many fathers were throwing



Dr. Ronald and Matthew Cate



Peter Jr., Peter Sr., and Nick Power

footballs with their sons, Chris and his dad enjoyed working math problems together. Adam Brooks focused on his father's sense of humor, which has clearly been passed on to him. His antics humored

Floyd's speeches were touching. Jesse admires his father for his courage in the face of illness

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## Football's Most Athletic Position

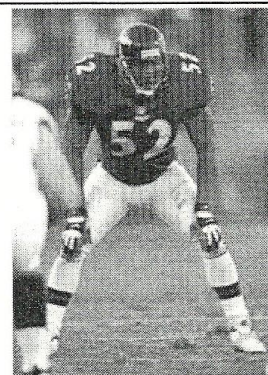
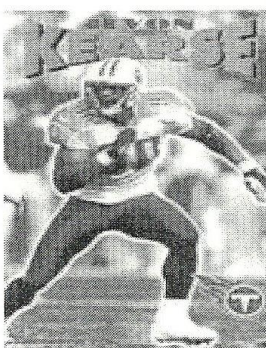
By Ben Turk and Matt Bubis

Atop the hill there is a much disputed debate about what position is the most athletic in football. Some people (most of whom are under 5 feet and weigh less than 70 pounds) claim that a defensive back is

the most athletic position in football. On the other hand, the more macho

muscular, magnificent men (such as ourselves) strongly believe that linebackers and some defensive linemen, such as Jevon Kearse, are much more athletic. As stated at

dictionary.com, athleticism means: 1. physically strong or muscular. That



would be pertaining to ourselves. 2. intense energy. This is definitely on the side of Turk because of his intense actions in the Big Red Bowl. Another

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## Positon Cont.

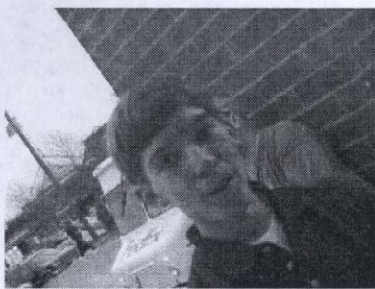
definition coming from the holy grail of dictionaries, *The Oxford English Dictionary*, which resides in the room of the Popmeister, says that an athlete is physically powerful, muscular, or robust. This dispute has been going on with Junior Schoolers for the last month or so. The Jew-o-duo took this question to the teachers, asking them what they think is the most athletic position in football. Before they answered the question, we told them the definition of an athlete and then asked their opinion. First we asked Mr. Carter, who responded, "Football is a wussy sport." We made him give us a response, and he replied with wide receiver; of course, this answer would come from a swim coach. Next on our quest we asked Dr. Marro. The Doc gave us a marvelous answer stating, "Middle linebacker, by far." We figure this is an extremely reliable source coming from a scientific genius. Next we asked Mr. McGugin, who played football for the Big Red just a few years ago. He wanted to have this great quote placed in the paper. "Middle linebacker, because that's what Mr. McGugin played." We next asked Mr. Michael, and he proved our point even more by giving yet another vote to the linebackers. Later we asked Mr. Brown, who before given the proper definition of athleticism, said that a defensive back is the most athletic position. Later given the truth of what athleticism really is, he came to his senses and told the truth of who really is the most athletic person on the football field.....the middle linebacker. I think that is enough evidence that the middle linebacker is by far the most athletic position on the football field, but if you don't agree, than think of it this way. Match up Ray Lewis or Jevon Kearse against some weak foe such as Deion Sanders. Who would win?

## The Demise of Funscape

By Taylor Gould

Funscape, formerly a place of refuge on weekends for teens without cars, has become a hangout for policeman more than teenagers, as the policeman-to-teenager ratio has skyrocketed to 367:1. Everywhere a young gentleman goes, it seems as if a voice is calling to him, "Now what exactly are you guys doing?" Then one looks down and sees the 5'3" man standing beneath him; his name is Casper.

(There were so many jokes I could put here, I couldn't decide.) There have even been rumors that Regal Cinemas will close. Where would the ticket-taker Clyde go? Clyde always provides a movie-goer with a confidence boosting comment, something like, "Hey Romeo," "Hey handsome," or "Good luck, son,"



Chris, use your best pick-up line!!!

if the writer of this article happens to be with a girl. Now that the video game/ride complex called Funscape is gone, a

gentleman and his lady friend(s) must find a spot in the Comet/Cooker or the mall; this is where the Ensworth kids go their separate ways (Princeton's Grille). It's such a great feeling when the older H.S. students drive by with their supermodel girlfriends and laugh in our



PJ is surrounded by ladies because of his attire.

faces. All we have to flash is the "ice" of our bicycle locks and wait for our parents to pick us up. This is one of the main reasons that many eighth graders know every single detail of their ideal cars right down to the number of cup-holders. One thing I've learned that parents hate is when you say, "Hey, Mom, just drop me off here," as your car is entering the city limits. If a young man can hitch a ride with an older student, then he is highly regarded as "cool." Many eighth graders have learned that this is an important year, for next year many ninth grade girls are taken by the sophomores (or juniors or possibly even lowly seniors) unable to attain females their own age. We all know we will become much better friends next year, since we've noticed a clan of freshmen always together. As one eighth grade girl said, "They're like yay! boys night out!" How embarrassing. All of this is a result of the Fall of the Funscape Empire.



## Bueno Sueno

By Ben Turk

The plot of "Seuno" is that in 1615 King Basilio The Beautiful (Hunter Mobley) of Spain sires a son. All of the astrologists predict that Segismundo (Jason Sanders) is going to destroy the king's empire and disgrace his name. The king locks the baby Segismundo in a prison secluded in the outskirts of his kingdom and only allows Clotaldo (Jay Harbison) to visit and take care of the boy. Twenty-five years later when King Basilio The Wise starts to become old and senile, he decides to release his son and make him king, but this doesn't sit well with the king's nephew Astolpho (Charlie Harris) and niece Estrella (Jenny Andrews) who are next in line to the throne.

The inter-twining plot is that Rosaura (Michaela Mckee) is trying to seek revenge on Astolpho under cover as a man, but also at her side is the not so faithful court jester Clarin (Charlie Pate). She also falls in love with Lotaldo.

The best way to catalogue this play is with a simple but strong simile. "Sueno" is like a girl giving off hot and

cold vibes. Don't get me wrong; this was one of my favorite plays of all time, and it was hilarious. But I felt like I was riding a seesaw while I was watching it. I was laughing, and then I was sleeping, but overall it was great.

The best actors in this production would have to be the former *Top of the Hill* editors Charlie Pate and Charlie Harris. Whenever the play got slow or dull, they came to the rescue with some hilarious antics and lines. So really the Charlies stole the show. Also the set and props were incredible.

Charlie Pate said the one line that stuck with me even after the play. I don't know if it stayed with me because it was funny or so true. "If G-d really wants your ass, G-d's

going to get your ass!"

My people asked me, "Why is your sister not in the play?" I am sorry to say she didn't

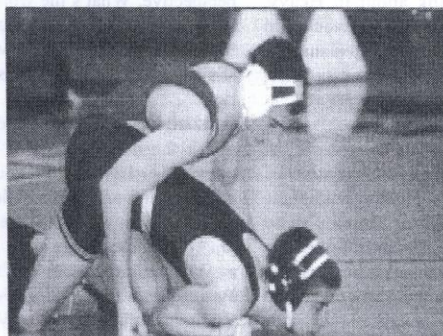
try out for this great production. She took a semester off. I apologize to all of the members of the Jessica Turk fan club, especially the president, Matt Bubis.

## A Humble Champion

By Justin Hall

Phillip Simpson. When his name is spoken, his enemies cringe. Having wrestled since the first grade, he has accomplished several goals which most wrestlers just dream about. In high school he was only beaten once, with a record of 149-1. 133 of those wins were pins. In his freshman year, he went 28-0, winning the state championship. As a sophomore he was 40-1, again winning the state championship. In his junior year, he was again undefeated, 40-0, and a three-time state champion. The summer of his senior year, he won the nationals. His senior year has been his most successful, being number one in the nation, having a 40-0 record, and becoming the first wrestler since 1972 to win four state championships, only the second in Tennessee history to accomplish this.

His attitude is what makes him awesome. He doesn't celebrate extensively when he wins, is completely humble about his victories, and always shows sportsmanship. He is devout in his religion



The mat tastes good, HUH!!

and always willing to help younger wrestlers. He is a role model to all athletes and the best wrestler that has ever been at MBA. Who knows what college holds for him?

## Advice Guys

By Preston Adams and Taylor Gould

Dear Advice Guys,

I am extremely obese, what can

I do?

Heavy in Hendersonville

**Optimist:** Heavy, it really has no meaning what you look like. Take out your Inside-Looking Mirror and say, what am I like inside this protective covering? You will see that inside you are a beautiful person.

**Pessimist:** That's right, you're fat; you don't need my confirmation, Heavy. Why don't you just suck it up, loser? Why are you wasting my time? Let me provide some inspiration, "You so fat it takes a boomerang to get yo' belt on." Best wishes,

Love, The Pessimist

**Possumist:** Think about it, Heavy. Instead of writing this letter, you could be out running and getting in shape. I suggest less talking and more exercise, and never bother me again.

Dear Advice Guys,

Everytime I go to the mixers, I become extremely furious with the constant childish themes and chaperones that constantly follow me when I try to get my mack on and my roll on with my woman. What can I do to change this?

Roderick Tisdale

**Optimist:** Well, Roderick, I suggest that you possibly have conversations with the girls. The mixers are designed to incite constructive conversation

between males and females. Possibly you could find mixers a bit more enjoyable with this strategy.

**Pessimist:** I couldn't agree with you more, Rod. As the great Cash Money Millionaires once said, "Everybody get your roll on." Rollage should be granted to every individual as the next amendment.

**Possumist:** Well, Roderick, MBA has made it difficult for anybody to get their respective rolls on. The best idea is to just roll on non-mixer nights.

Peace out playa,

The Possumist

Dear Advice Guys,

Every time I see a girl I think I like, I can't bring myself to talk to her. What are some ways that I can maybe get her to talk to me?

A 7th Grader

**Optimist:** A very good question, 7th grader. One idea is to go into the conversation with an optimistic perspective. What's the worst that can happen? If you just go up and talk to her, maybe she'll be friendly with you. If she's not, then maybe she's not your type.

**Pessimist:** Here's the deal, kid. You look good, the girl likes you. You have money, the girl likes you. You get in the weight room and begin to look like a young, budding Arnold, the girl likes you. All of these things are successful ways to get girls; use one of them.

**Possumist:** Well, I believe that the Pessimist is right in many ways. But why spend hours in the weight room when you can just stuff your wallet with paper? I myself have found this very effective with the ladies. Although you must remember to bring a sufficient amount of real money as well, for it is

always leaves a good impression when you buy something for your 7th grade female counterpart.

## Bransford's Greatest Hits

By Taylor Gould

Track 1 - Bransford in the Sky with Diamonds

Track 2 - The In-law Bransford Maxwell

Track 3 - B.I.A. (Bransford in Action)

Track 4 - Under the Bransford

(sometimes i feel like i cant get a breath out, sometimes i feel like my only hope, is for him to get indigestion, and get up off of me, this guy is ugly, now that ain't a lie)

Track 5 - Wherever Bransford May Roam

Track 6 - Mo' Bransford Mo' Problems

Track 7 - Ice Ice Bransford

Track 8 - Bransford Want Candy

Track 9 - Bransford Falling (watch out)

Special Bonus Track - Runaway

Bransford (can't catch him)

This cd is for sale in the  
Junior School office for \$5.

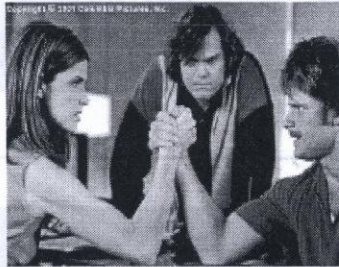


# Movie Reviews

## Stay Safe of Silverman

By Brents Herron

Quite honestly I was disappointed that a movie with such



hot girls could be so bad. The movie *Saving Silverman* is about a man whose best friends try to save him from marrying an overprotective, karate-kicking psychiatrist. They lock her up in their basement, but she easily tricks them into letting her go by the use of seductive actions. This film had very few good scenes, one being the part when Silverman is in the bar with his ex-girlfriend and his best friend has attached a shocking device to his chest area and

shocks him whenever he mentions his current girlfriend. Personally I think what ruined this movie was all of the previews shown on television; after seeing these so many times, I thought the scenes were not very funny. Like when the ex-girlfriend hits his friend with the chair, wow! Never saw that one coming. The movie's strongest point was its continuous reference to Neil Diamond. All three men were obsessed with him and had restrictions put on them for attacking him too many times. After seeing this movie, one cannot deny the talent of Neil. All in all, the movie was not too good but had a few strong points supporting a very bad story.

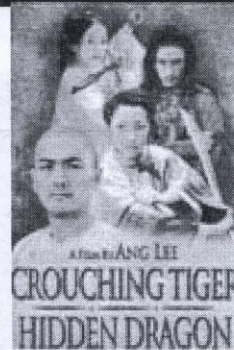
## Crouching Tiger, Hidden Dragon

By Rob Beasley

*Crouching Tiger, Hidden Dragon* is a memorable movie. It is mainly about getting the "green destiny," a samurai sword, back to its owner, but there are about five other plots, which is the one reason it is such an outstanding movie. One sub-plot, which is nearly the same as the main

plot, is trying to find Jade Fox, who authorities suspect is the thief of the "green destiny," but the sub-plots thicken

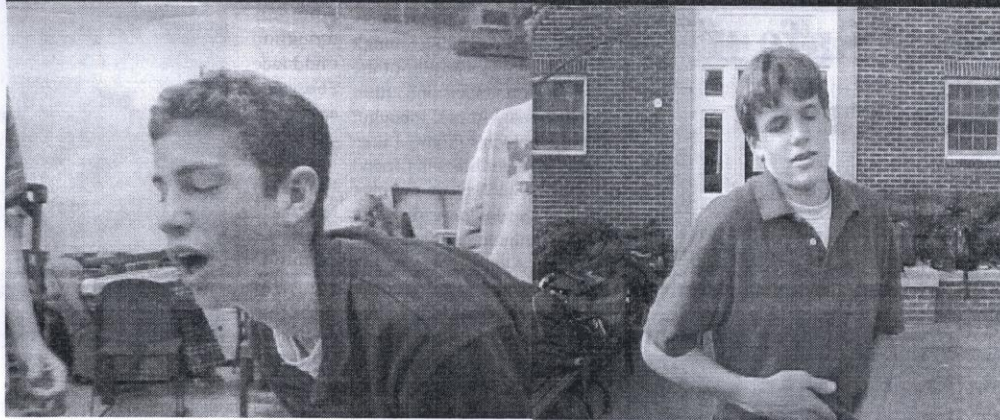
into molasses later on into the movie. Another sub-plot concerns a young woman who is trying to decide whether or not to marry her arranged husband. I could go on forever about the plots, but more important things are pending. I want to praise the director for using subtitles instead of dubbing it into English, which would have made it into a cheap imitation of a Bruce Lee/Jackie Chan movie. Also, as you probably know by now, the visual effects are stunning. There is one part



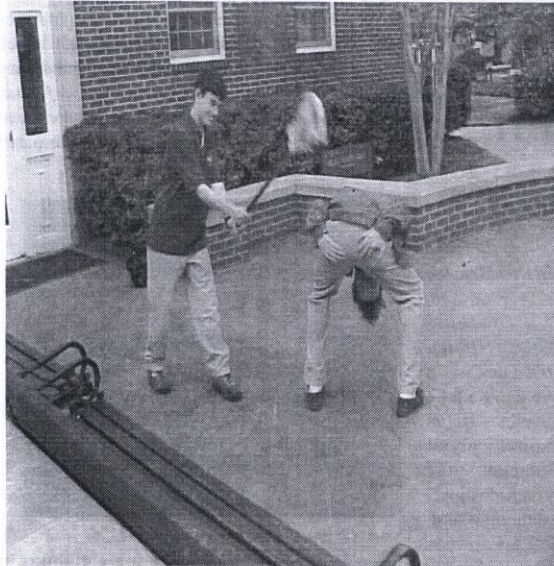
where two characters are fighting in bamboo trees. It's not a blood-and-guts kind of movie, except for one part where a guy gets a razor-sharp, galaxy-shaped frisbee thing thrown at his forehead. In conclusion, I give this movie 4.2 stars.



## Perfect Grandchildren



EEEEEEWW!! Brenton's lunch box smells like .....

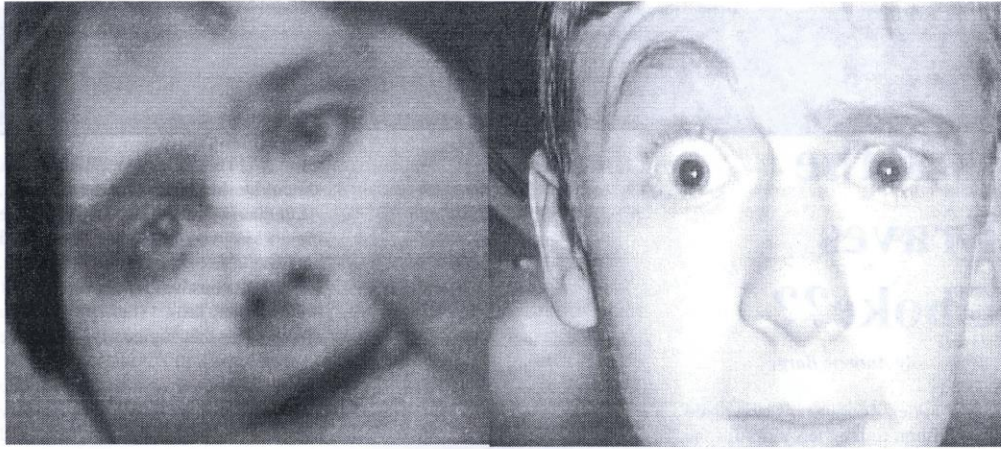


Thank you sir, may I have another!!



Shane Battier at the movies!





**Extreme Close-up!!!WHOOOA!!**



And along the road he came across a  
rabid hobo. And his name was Supersilius.  
And Supersilius joined him. And they traversed  
the land. And Supersilius hunted for them.  
And one day Supersilius got in a tussle  
with a deranged pig wrangler. And Supersilius  
was killed, and the wrangler was, also. And  
the world was peaceful for a time.

Book of Bob 7:12

*By Jon Waldo and Tom Cambell*

## GARDENING THE GREEN STUFF

(With Spiegl)

*By Jonathan Ray*

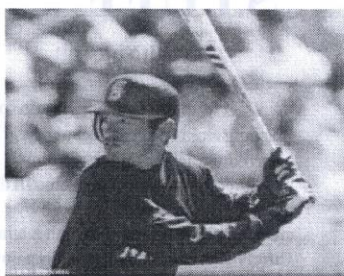
In the days leading up to Spring Break, Mr. Spiegl and his beloved microbes undertook the mission of preparing a garden. All of his classes have participated by clearing plots of land in which a large variety of vegetables has been sown, including spinach, carrots, various lettuces, and even the long-time favorite, snow peas. This garden, which is behind Ingram, is coming along with pleasing progress but has one additional need, resources. We are hoping for involvement from grandparents, parents, and possibly the community at large. Stay tuned for more updates!

# Will the Braves Choke??

By Andrew Barge

Alex Rodriguez is being paid \$250 million to play ten years for the Texas Rangers. This means that he alone costs more than the entire payrolls of three Major League Baseball teams. Manny Ramirez goes to the Red Sox for \$160 million for eight years. Oh yeah, and the Yankees buy another prospect, Mike Mussina, so they can add to their \$92.5 million payroll. After all of the trades made during the off season, a pretty unpredictable and expensive season is in store for the year 2001.

Let's start with the National League. Being a Braves fan, I will try to



The Mariners' Ichiro Suzuki

be as fair as I can. The Braves look for another division championship. With the Mets losing P Mike Hampton, OF Derek Bell, and SS Mike Bordick, another NL pennant may be harder for them to reach this season. On the other hand, Andres Gallaraga, the Braves'

first baseman, went to the Rangers. The Colorado Rockies improved their always embarrassing pitching staff by getting Denny Neagle and Mike Hampton, so a possible upset may be in store for the NL West.

Last year's four division winners were the Atlanta Braves, the St. Louis Cardinals, the San Francisco Giants, with the New York Mets, who captured the Wild Card.

These same teams look good for this season, but the battle between the Braves and Mets for the division title should be an especially good one.

The American League has dominated the National League,

winning the last four All-Star Games. Also, the New York Yankees proved that it is possible to buy another World Series

Championship.

The Chicago White Sox should be the team to beat this year. After having the best record in the majors last year, the White Sox picked up David Wells from the Blue Jays. The White Sox also have a meager \$31 million pay roll. (For all of you mathcrobes, that is nearly 1/2 of the Yankees' payroll.)

Another team to beat is the Seattle Mariners. Even though they lost their star shortstop, they acquired Ichiro Suzuki. After winning seven batting titles, Suzuki is now believed to be the Babe Ruth of the Japanese leagues. Now that the Red Sox have

Manny Ramirez, they have increased the chance of conquering the first place position in the AL East.



The Rangers' Alex Rodriguez

Last year, the Yankees, White Sox, Athletics, and Mariners were the four division winners. This year's race for the pennant should be even closer than last year's.

Considering all of these transactions, this season should be another good one. Although baseball is very unpredictable until after spring training, any idiot knows that the Braves will go on to the World Series and sweep some unruly team. Well, maybe not—but it could happen.

**Braves**



# Parody Page

## Pollin'

By Limp Ski-zit

By Caldwell Tanner

Oooh yeah, keep on pollin' baby, you know what time it is.  
Throw your poles up  
skis in and skis out  
skis up and poles down  
tell me how ya' gotta ski now

Keep pollin' pollin' pollin' pollin'  
(what?)  
Keep pollin' pollin' pollin' pollin'  
(yeah!)  
Keep pollin' pollin' pollin' pollin'  
(what?)  
Keep pollin' pollin' pollin' pollin' (yeah!)

Ski Bunnies ( hey)  
I know you want plant them poles right here  
S-K-I-I- - N-G right here  
Fly boys in the house skiin' like they're in the hood  
cause if you ski good, then we ski good

So green-it, blue-it, black-it on the slope  
doesn't even matter how your poles shaped yo!  
So plant yo' pole right here, pick your ski up now  
move it round the mogul and you move it all around

Throw your poles up,  
skis in and skis out  
poles up and skis down  
tell me how ya gotta ski now

Keep pollin' pollin' pollin' pollin'  
(what?)  
Keep pollin' pollin' pollin' pollin' (yeah!)  
Keep pollin' pollin' pollin' pollin'  
(what?)

Keep pollin' pollin' pollin'  
pollin' (yeah)

Ski bunnies (hey!)  
So you wanna buy a lift ticket? (Yeah)  
you can get a lift ticket! (How?)  
You gotta have the right flow. (huh?)  
Your cash money yo!

And all your ski gear,  
you can get it right here  
Oh buy a cool cap and some poles,  
those'll help you steer  
Now you got your skis set  
Do ya think you're ready yet?

Down a double black and you know  
you're gonna hit your head!  
Now you got some casts, up and  
down your arms  
You gott'em from a doctor,  
and you almost bought the farm!

Hey bunnies (hey)  
Ski in and ski out  
Skis up and poles down!  
Tell me how ya gotta ski now!

Keep pollin' pollin' pollin'  
pollin' (what?)  
Keep pollin' pollin' pollin'  
pollin' (yeah)  
Keep pollin' pollin' pollin'  
pollin' (what?)  
Keep pollin' pollin' pollin'  
pollin' (yeah)

## Improvin'

Dedicated to Dr. Fuller

By Ben Turk

To the tune of *Free-Falling*

He's a thesbian  
He loves his improv  
He loves Shakespeare  
And Tennessee Williams too

He's a doctor  
But he can't take out your tonsils  
He just did *Sueno*  
I don't know what that means

It's been a long day  
Of doing bad improv  
I'm sick of being in  
The rehearsal room

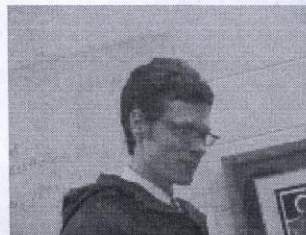
The kids are playing  
with all of the props  
From my fake swords  
To the janitors' broom

And I'm immmmmmmmmmmmmmmmmmm im-provin  
Yeah I'm im immmmmmmmmmmmmmm im-provin  
Yeah I'm im immmmmmmmmmmmmmmmmmm im-provin

Now all the actors  
Left after the first semester

Now I  
have no  
chance  
Of making  
Broadway  
Blvd.

Here're the  
bad ones  
They can't  
even do  
voices



They can't hit a high C  
Or even a low D

And I'm immmmmmmmmmmmmmmmmmm im-provin  
Yeah I'm immmmmmmmmmmmmmmmmmm im-provin  
Yeah I'm immmmmmmmmmmmmmmmmmm im-provin

(Likes to do his im-provin)  
(Likes to do his im-provin)

(Likes to do his im-provin)  
(Likes to do his im-provin)



and appreciates how his father always makes time for him. William's father died when he was in 9<sup>th</sup> grade, but William shared with us, that in spite of his parents' divorce, his father always made incredible efforts to be an active part of his life. All four of these seniors gave outstanding speeches.

The much anticipated guest of honor, Steve Spurrier, spoke next. His father was a minister who started little league baseball in East Tennessee. Coach Spurrier told us that it **does** matter if you win or lose, and he should know considering that he is one of the best high school football players to come out of Tennessee. He also played quarterback for the Florida Gators, played in the NFL for ten years, and coached Florida to their first SEC championship. Some of the other beliefs that he shared with us are:

"Be the best family man."

"Be the best business person."

"Have peace of mind."

"Be a team player."

"Be responsible for your actions."

"Opportunities multiply as they are seized."

The speeches and opportunity to be with our fathers made a great evening.

## Intruders, Don't Mess with the Thurmonator!

By Nelson Berry

It was on Friday, February 16, 2001, that the MBA campus was violated by two metro students. The two students were about sophomore size and age, and they wore punk clothes. In general, they were unbecoming of gentlemen.

Using the parking lot entrance, they entered the Massey Building. I had signed out of study hall and was reading *To Kill A Mockingbird* when I saw these two intruders.

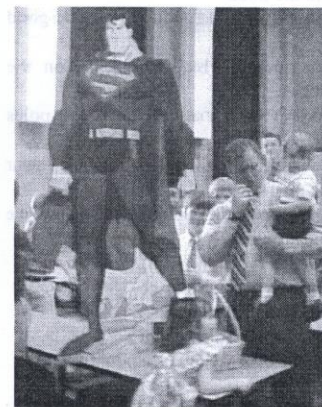
Mr. Thurmond had just returned from a high school meeting and had settled down in his chair to read *The Wall Street Journal*. I knew that this was actually a cunningly disguised "Batman" comic book. I was about to enter his office when we both heard a yell. Under normal circumstances, this would be Mr. Popovich teaching his class. However, the yell was emanating from Massey Commons, and there was some rather offensive language in the yell! Another clue was that Dr. Marro had also seen these interlopers. Hearing this yell, Mr. Thurmond leapt out of his chair and barely missed knocking me

over as he ran out the door. Meanwhile, Dr. Marro called the police.

The two culprits had taken the Massey-Ingram exit, and Mr. Thurmond was catching up with one of them. Mr. Thurmond later said that he merely encouraged the young man to stop, but I thought I heard the phrase, "I will rip out your spine and show it to you before you die!" Needless to say, the young man gave himself up.

The other intruder was caught, and both are most likely currently attending an alternative learning facility, since this was not their first encounter with the police. The two miscreants were out of school that day and were perhaps under the influence of intoxicating substances. As most people know, there is now a sign near the student drop-off area which states: "Security on Site." Hopefully, this will discourage any more intruders at MBA.

(NOTE: The article you have just read is semi-true. The character telling the story is NOT I.)



At Mr. Thurmond's birthday party:  
Mr. Thurmond on the left and  
Superman on the right!!!



## Interview with the Popmeister

By Ben Turk and Matt Bubis

**Matt & Ben:** Whose laugh is the most annoying?

**Pop:** Uhh, Matthew Cate, closely followed by Matt Bubis's impression of Matthew Cate.

**M&B:** If you were on "Survivor" and your students were the other members, who would be your top three choices of being kicked off and why?

**Popgoestheweasel:** Jesse Wright, but he would leave since there would be no females, Rob Beasley but he would swim away just to see how far he could go, and Matt Bubis, but I would keep him on if was just the two of us. His antagonism in a large group annoys me but one-on-one I like it.

**M & B :** Boxers or briefs?

**Popcorn:** Boxers, wait is none an option?

**M & B :** Hamburgers or hotdogs?

**Popfreid minus the Roy:** Stadium dogs.

**M&B:** Men or Women?

**Pop fly:** Sex or gender?

**M&B:** Chinese or Japanese?

**Pop Rocks:** Asian.

**M&B:** Baseball or Football?

**Mary POPins:** Hahaha (in a sarcastic manner) baseball.

**M&B:** Why is baseball a wussy sport?

**POP tarts:** Because Ben Turk came up with this question. (Ben didn't come up with this one, smart guy.)

**M&B:** What student makes you the maddest?

**Smart Guy:** Matt Bubis (ahhahahaha).

**M&B:** What teacher do you not like the most?

**CornPOPs:** Myself.

**M&B:** If you could change the world, what would you do?

**Gotta have my POPs:** Make opening day of baseball a national holiday.

**M&B:** Where do you buy your gloves?

**Brian:** I buy them at the same place OJ

does.  
**M&B:** Where did you buy your sweet blurple pants?

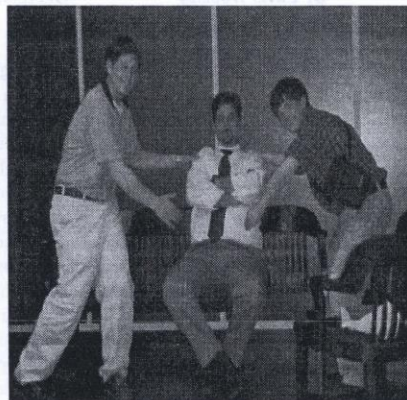
**THE Popovich:** On a sale rack at Gap for \$3 about 5 years ago. Think of it this way, it's less than a dollar per pocket. (There were 4 front pockets on his pants.)

**M&B:** Have your thumbs ever handicapped you from doing anything?

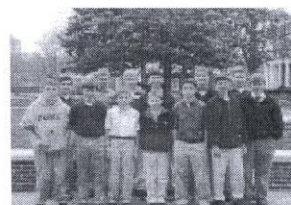
**Pop-o-Smurf:** I can't use stock bowling balls.

**M&B:** How many bowling balls do you own?

**Pop-n-zits:** 2



## Swimming



The 2000-2001 Swim Team



Coach Carter, Paul Crook, Van Diehl, and Diver PJ Fox, the placers in the region meet.

Thanks to Coaches Rundberg and Carter for a great season!!!



## SEC Hoops

By Chris Woolsey

The SEC had another exciting season of basketball and continues to be among the top conferences. Ten out of twelve teams made it to post-season play. The champion of both the regular season and tournament was Kentucky, who beat Ole Miss in the SEC tournament finals 77-55. There were many surprises, such as Ole Miss' finishing 1<sup>st</sup> in the West when they were predicted to finish last. Tennessee, after starting 12-1 and 4<sup>th</sup> in the country, took a downward plunge in the SEC, losing as many as five straight and ending the SEC season at 8-8. Kentucky had a shaky start but peaked at the right time and ended up getting a two-seed in the tournament.

### In order of finish in the East:

**Kentucky 24-10 (12-4):** After starting 3-5 in the early season with people wanting Tubby Smith fired, the Wildcats finished the season with the SEC championship and a 22-9 record. Senior leadership was provided by the only senior, the coach's son, Saul Smith. He received a lot of heat but stepped up big. Kentucky went out with a disappointing loss to USC (76-80) in the East region semifinals (Sweet 16). Look forward to even greater things in the future by a young, strong team. Key wins: swept Tennessee, Georgia, Ole Miss, Florida, Arkansas.

**Florida 24-7 (12-4):** Losing three key players in the early SEC season, Florida turned it around, finishing for a tie for first in the league. Florida received a three-seed for the NCAA tournament. Coming off a 2<sup>nd</sup> place finish last year in the tournament,

the Gators were able to reach their high expectations in the season but had a disappointing 2<sup>nd</sup> round loss to Temple (75-54). Florida is a young team and is a favorite to finish 1<sup>st</sup> in the SEC next year. Key SEC wins: swept Tennessee, Georgia, Kentucky, Ole Miss.

**Georgia 16-15 (9-7):** Having the toughest schedule in the country, Georgia came into SEC play at .500. They finished 9-7 in the SEC and got an eight-seed in the tournament. Their NCAA bid was controversial because Alabama seemed to deserve the bid, but Georgia's RPI and schedule strength prevailed. In the end, the Bulldogs lost in a close game to Missouri (70-68). Their future looks about the same as this year. Georgia surprised everyone in the early half of SEC play by beating some top teams. Key SEC wins: swept Tennessee, Florida, Ole Miss.



**Tennessee 22-11 (8-8):** After an impressive start (13-1 and a #4 national ranking with wins over Wisconsin and Syracuse), the Vols hit rock bottom in SEC play. They seemed to beat the teams they should have but also lost to some mediocre teams. At one point the Vols lost five straight. They received an eight-seed even though some fans predicted they might even have a two or one-seed. Their early exit in the NCAA tournament to Charlotte (70-63) came as not much of a surprise and signaled the firing of head coach Jerry Green. The future looks very shaky for the Vols, who recently named Buzz Peterson as the new coach.

Key SEC wins: none.

**South Carolina 15-15 (6-10):** South Carolina struggled this year to beat almost anyone. They were a young team and not predicted to have much success. After their loss in the NIT to Connecticut (72-65), Eddie Fogler, former Vandy coach, resigned because the school never offered him a contract extension. South Carolina shows no new life next year because of key personnel changes and questionable recruits. Key SEC wins: swept Georgia, Florida.

**Vanderbilt 15-15 (4-12):** After a good start in pre-SEC play (11-2) and possible tournament hopes, the Commodores fell off at the end by losing eight straight games and ending any chances of either an NCAA or NIT tournament bid. The young team felt the fatigue that comes with SEC basketball. Matt Freije surprised everyone by playing wonderfully early on, but like the team, the caliber of his play also slipped. Their last loss came to Alabama (78-59) in the SEC tournament. Vandy's future hangs on the decision of David Harrison, but it looks very good for the next few seasons. Look for Matt Freije to be similar to Dan Langhi. Key SEC wins: Arkansas and Florida.

### In order of finish in the West:

**Mississippi 27-8 (11-5):** Predicted last in the SEC, Ole Miss came firing out of the gates with wins over USC and Oklahoma. They started out with a record of 11-0, the best start in school history. Coming into SEC play at 12-1, the Rebels had high hopes of a conference championship. They finished first in the SEC West. With an impressive victory over Florida the night before (74-69), the Rebels were defeated by Kentucky 77-55 in the SEC championship. Going into the NCAA tournament as a three-seed, the Rebels



made it to the regional semifinals (Sweet 16). In their final game, they lost to Arizona 66-56. The Rebels' lack of depth came back to haunt them in the NCAA tournament. Next season looks very promising, but they will be without Rahim Lockhart, who graduates this year. Key SEC wins: swept Arkansas, Tennessee, Florida, and Kentucky.

**Arkansas** 20-11 (10-6): Starting 5-6 in SEC play, the Razorbacks won five straight to finish the regular season. The young Razorbacks seemed to be one of the hottest teams going into the NCAA tournament as a seven-seed, but their hopes were shot down when they lost to Georgetown in the first round (61-63). The Razorbacks look very good next year due in part to their recruiting and young team. Only one out of their 18 players graduates. Key SEC wins: Tennessee, Kentucky, Georgia.

**Alabama** 25-11 (8-8): Starting five sophomores this season, the Tide finished with a commendable season, going to the finals of the NIT. The Tide started 11-1 coming into SEC play. Their NCAA tournament bid seemed a sure thing, and all they had to do was break even in the SEC, or so they thought. The Crimson Tide, after a good season, finished with heartbreak when they did not receive the N C A A tournament bid. The Tide, however, went on the road and made it to the NIT finals, where they lost to Tulsa (79-60). The team looks

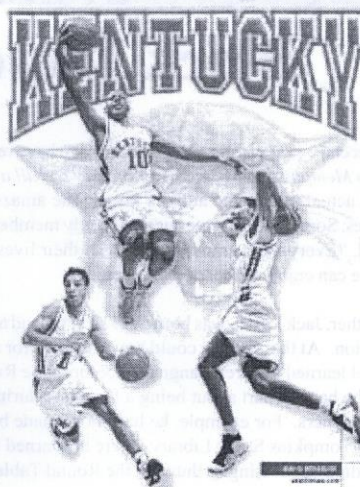
very good next year as they return all starters. Key SEC wins: Ole Miss, Kentucky, Georgia.

#### Mississippi

**State** 18-13 (7-9): Starting 8-2 with a win over Alabama, the Bulldogs finished with a losing SEC record and the loss of their hopes to go to the NCAA tournament. They did, however, make a run in the NIT and were able to go to the regional finals (Elite Eight), where they lost to eventual champion Tulsa (75-77). The team loses center Robert Jackson, who averaged 11.3 points and 7.3 rebounds per game. The team's future looks bleak because of the loss of talent and below average recruiting. Basketball prospects look bad for Bulldog fans. Key SEC wins: Ole Miss, Arkansas.

**Auburn** 18-14 (7-9): After losing a core of excellent senior players, Auburn fans did not look forward to the season. The Tigers surprised many by starting out 11-3, but like other SEC teams who had a weak schedule, they fumbled in SEC play. They received an NIT bid but lost in the second round to Purdue (61-79). Fans were surprised with the win over Miami (60-58). Auburn's future looks about the same with a somewhat strong recruiting class coming in. They will not return to their

recent glory days for a while. Key SEC win: Arkansas.



#### Louisiana

**State** 13-16 (2-14): Starting 9-1 with wins over no one, fans knew that the Tigers would stumble in SEC play. No one thought the

plunge would be so bad. Having only five scholarship players meant no depth for the Tigers. After last year's unbelievable season, the Tigers were terrible. They made a mini-run in the SEC tournament, beating Georgia (63-62) and almost costing the Bulldogs an NCAA bid. The Tigers, however, lost to Arkansas (72-77) in the second round of the SEC tournament. They were one of two teams not to make any post-season play. The future looks dim for the Tigers. Key SEC wins: Ole Miss, Georgia.

SEC fans enjoyed another exciting season of basketball. Next year looks to be equally intense as many teams continue to build strong programs. In the West, Arkansas, Alabama, Ole Miss, Mississippi State, Auburn, and LSU look to be the order of finish; in the East, Kentucky, Florida, Tennessee, Vanderbilt, Georgia, and South Carolina look to be the order of finish. The SEC proved again why it is one of the top conferences in basketball.





# *Our Family Stories*

## **Black Tuesday to V-E Day**

Recently in seventh grade literature, we have read two novels set in the South during the 30's and 40's. The novels, *The Road to Memphis*, by Mildred Taylor, and *To Kill a Mockingbird*, by Harper Lee, are both based on real events, family stories, and actual people the authors knew. The amazing stories that these authors tell made us wonder about our own family stories. Some students interviewed family members and discovered rich details and anecdotes from this era. As Bracey Wilson said, "Everyone's grandparents lived their lives much differently than we live ours. We should never forget their stories so we can enjoy and learn from them."

My grandfather, Jack Levitt, was born in 1912 in Poland and came to America when he was nine. He lived in New York during the Depression. At that time he could buy rye bread for a dime, a kosher hot dog for a nickel and a subway ride for a nickel. Since he had learned different languages before, like Russian, Italian, Lithuanian, and Polish, learning English wasn't too difficult. The hardest part about being a foreigner during the Depression was that people made fun of "green horns," who were the foreigners. For example, he had shoes made by a cobbler that were different from everyone else's. He did find a friend in the Tompkins Street Library where he learned to read and understand English. He read all the books for a boy his age. By reading about King Arthur and the Round Table, his favorite book, he was able to escape the misery of being poor. - Manny Levitt

My grandfather, Roy Swanson, was assigned to the 11<sup>th</sup> Armored Division of the 3<sup>rd</sup> Army during WWII. He served as a mechanic, and he also fought in the Battle of the Bulge. Once he was taking a jeep apart, and General Patton came up behind him and asked, "What are you doing, soldier?" Without knowing whom he was talking to, my grandfather said, "Who the hell wants to know?" When he saw General Patton, he said, "Excuse me, sir. Stripping for parts, sir." General Patton said something like, "Carry on, soldier." -Erik Swanson

On December 7, 1941, my grandfather, Chuck Olfield, was listening to the Chicago Bears' game on the radio when it was interrupted by a newscast about the bombing of Pearl Harbor. This made him angry because he was very interested in the Bears' game. Everyone was appalled by the bombing of Pearl Harbor. When my grandfather was in college, he wanted to be in the army; he wore glasses and the army would not allow people with glasses. Consequently, he memorized the eye chart before he went to the Army Recruitment Center, but they had a different eye chart, and he failed the test. His former tennis coach Scotty said, "Listen Chuck, we've got plenty of soldiers, but we need doctors so go back and finish school and become a doctor." He went back to school and did become a doctor. -Tommy Corts

When he was 15 years old, my grandfather, George William Rothwell, had to quit school and begin working to support his family. The Rothwell family, Irish immigrants, was very poor and lived in a tenement house in the Irish part of Passaic, New Jersey. They didn't go to doctors but took care of themselves. For an earache, my grandfather's family would boil an onion and peel it to the core placing the heart of the hot onion into the ear to soothe the pain. Every spring they used Castor oil to "clean out their system" and cod liver oil every other day to keep healthy. For entertainment, a movie cost about fifteen cents, and the theater usually showed two movies for this price. Since the theater had no air conditioning during the summer, they would keep the side door open to keep the theater cool. The neighborhood children would gather around the open door and watch the movie for free. Other entertainment included Harry Houdini, the escape artist, a man who dove off the Brooklyn Bridge, and a man from England named Malcolm who had the most powerful car in the U.S. He drove in Daytona at speeds up to 80 MPH. -Eric Bader

My grandfather, Bill Brittain, remembers much about his life in the thirties. His school was in downtown Franklin, and he walked almost a mile each day to get there. At lunch he, Buck Cannon, and Bill Armistead used to combine their money and



## *Our Family Stories*

go to a pharmacy where they would buy a milkshake, put three straws in it, and drink it really fast seeing who could get the most. In the summer when he was twelve, he worked in his dad's creamery for \$1.00. He also helped deliver ice for people's ice boxes. About his romances, he remembers kissing one of his sweethearts in class. The teacher caught him and said, "If you want to kiss someone, kiss me." -Parkes Brittain

When my grandmother's father died in the summer of 1935 from appendicitis, her mother was in the hospital with tuberculosis. In December, Grandma stood on a box outside a hospital patient room and looked at her mother through a window. She waved, and her mother weakly sat up and waved back. A few days later, on my grandmother's eleventh birthday, her mother died of tuberculosis. Both her mother and her father had died before the age of forty. When news came of the death, the children were taken from their house and sent to live with relatives who did not have, did not want, and could not afford children. My grandmother, her thirteen-year-old brother, and her sixteen-year-old sister were soon adopted by another family. The kind family that adopted them allowed my grandmother to stay until she was seventeen, when she began working in a drug store and supporting herself. I was drawn to this particular story because of the perseverance my grandmother, her sister, and her brother all displayed. -Nicholas Marzallo

My grandmother, Claudia Puryear, was born in 1933 in Covington, Tennessee. Her father, who was too old to be drafted, was worried about her two brothers' going off to war, so he volunteered. He was stationed in the South Pacific. While there, he met the famous pilot, Joe Faus, later commissioner of the NFL and Governor of North Carolina, and Charles Lindburgh, famous for his flight over the Atlantic. Children during the war did something called scrap drives where they would collect large quantities of metal and give them to the army. Her mother worked for the Red Cross, and she would help her fold bandages to be shipped overseas. -Pierce Webber

My grandmother, Lovell Hamer, first fell in love in a story she calls "The Mixup." My grandfather's friend Harold, my godfather, asked Bennie Simmons, my grandfather, to tell Lovell that he liked her. Instead, Bennie told Lovell that *he* liked her himself. Lovell was pleased, but she was only thirteen at the time. The correct dating age was fifteen, so she had to wait. She was allowed to see him at age fourteen, however, because he had to go to war. Due to the U.S.'s entering WWII, most of the seniors at Roosevelt High School would be going to war, so graduation was held their junior year. She also remembered some racial conflict when the schools in Gary were about to integrate. To help ease the tension, they arranged for Frank Sinatra to hold a concert at the school. -Harold Simmons.

Walter Pruitt, my grandfather, grew up in Bolivar, Tennessee, a small town where everyone knows everyone, and they are all related. Starting in the eighth grade, everything was with a date. Walter would walk to a girl's house, pick her up, walk to the picture show, hold hands at the picture show, then walk her home. He might sneak a kiss or two under a tree in the shadows on the way home. The guys talked a lot about sex and guessed the girls did, but none of them had any experience because they were afraid if they experimented, they would get shot by angry fathers. All of the kids back then tried all of the new fads. Some of them were flat-top haircuts, brimmed hats with the front turned up decorated with different types of pins, blue jeans and saddle oxfords, and pig Latin. -Buck Curley

As my grandmother, Audrey Kennedy, was growing up, the first car her mother owned was a 1930's Buick. Because automobiles had just come out, she didn't really know how to operate it. Right after they got it, they took it out for a test drive around the block. The only problem was that she didn't know how to stop it! -Brad Kennedy

My grandfather remembers much about his life in the 30's and 40's. Everyone liked jitterbug dancing and listening to the radio, especially the radio programs, like "The Lone Ranger" and "General Bird's Expeditions." General Bird was one of the first people ever to travel to Antarctica. Every night he came on the radio, my grandfather would get out a map and chart where Byrd was at that time. -McLean Beto

One of the activities my grandfather, Peter Hill Beer, did when he was young was to go bass fishing with his dad in Lake Ponchatrain. He said, "When dad was busy, I went with my friends to the Mississippi River and fished for crawfish." When he and his friends had caught lot of crawfish and their croka sacks were full, they would tie up their shirts and carry the crawfish inside their shirts. -Pete Long-Innes.



## *Our Family Stories*

My grandfather was born in 1919 in Vandergriff, Pennsylvania. There were nine other children in his family living in a three-bedroom house. He had one set of clothes, and children had to sleep on couches and the floor. No one in the family had a job, and his family had to live on welfare at sixteen dollars every two weeks. In 1936 he waited in a huge line outside in the freezing cold at night to see if Ford Motors would employ him. He did get a job at six dollars per day. —Max Hinchion

My grandfather remembered that back then dinner was something to look forward to; every night was different. His father made them do some of the silliest things. Once he made them eat blindfolded. Another time he made them eat with the left hand instead of their right. He did all of this just to show them how it was for other people. He swears that everyone thought they were the weirdest bunch of people! —Terrell McQuirter

My grandfather, David Wilson, spent time as a child playing with animals—a dog, duck and chickens. Sometimes he would hunt for Indian arrowheads in the freshly plowed fields or go to Shy's Hill to look for mini-balls from the Civil War. —Bracey Wilson

My grandfather had to move out of his home during the flooding of the Ohio River in 1937. When he later took a boat to their street, he could only see the second story of their house. When they moved back in, they discovered that the water had come within one inch of touching the ceiling of the second floor. First they got a garden hose and washed all the mud off the house. Then they built a fire to dry the house. —Martin Weick

My grandmother, Cordelia Eser Rocco, remembered not being allowed to keep lights on in the apartment because planes might see their house with lights on and bomb it. She also remembers the rationing. They were only allowed to use very little soap, have very little milk or butter each week and a small amount of water. They could have no meat at all. —John Rocco

Family members in my grandmother's family farmed. They would get up early and go pick cotton and tobacco. —Toby Simpson

My grandfather remembers running to school with all his eight brothers and sisters about a mile or more every day. He carried a bucket that had all his brothers' and sisters' lunches for the day. He may have been embarrassed to be seen with them, but he never complained because he knew he would get popped if he did. His father was in control. He was the man of the house, and everyone knew it. No one questioned his authority. —Luke Brown

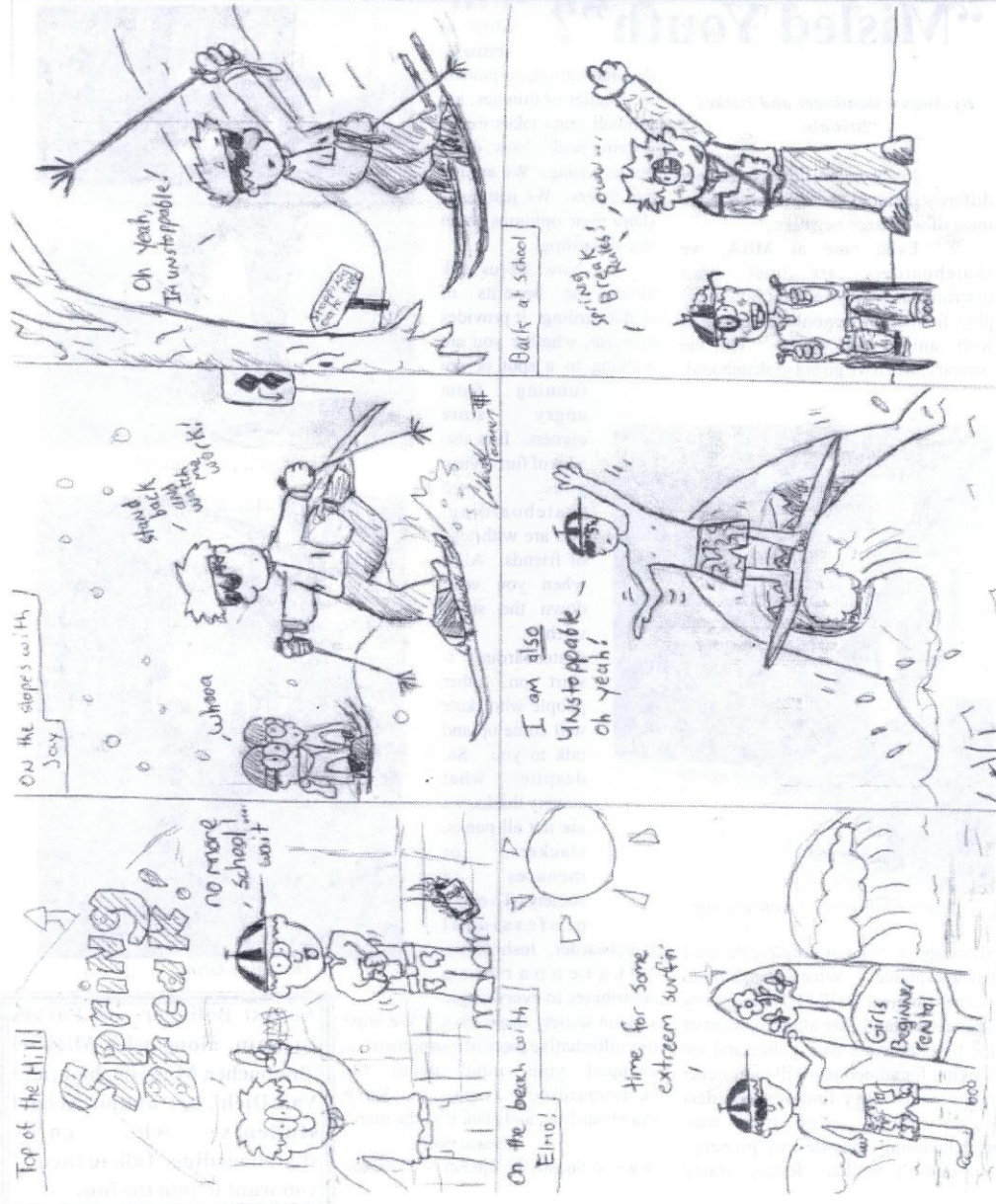
My grandfather, Henry Read, was born in New Orleans in 1919 and had polio as a young child. When the U.S. went to war, his two older brothers joined the service and went overseas to Europe, but Henry could not go because of his disabilities caused by polio. He joined the Coast Guard and did all he could to help the war effort, guarding the American coastline. Most of his friends returned, but there were those who did not. Fortunately, both of his brothers returned unhurt. —Read Ezell

My great grandfather on my mother's side owned real estate in Florida, which was mostly swamps at the time in the twenties. He owned a hotel and had a great amount of money coming in. (He once used a twenty-dollar bill to light a cigar.) When the Depression hit, people did not have enough money to buy land or check into the hotel, a fact which led to his becoming impoverished. After the banks closed, my great grandfather had to start all over. —Clark Connery

When war broke out, my grandmother, Rose Otto Thoni Hornberger, was eight years old. She and her brother Jimmy would take the red wagon out and collect rubber objects in the neighborhood and take them to the station where they would be used for the war effort. Her two oldest sisters, Madeline and Lilian, were nurses. Madeline helped at Camp Forrest, a POW camp where she took care of German prisoners of war. Her other sister Lilian traveled on the "troop train" where she took care of the sick U.S. patients. None of her brothers had to fight in Europe. —Nick Power



# Comics





# Opinions

## "Misled Youth"?

By August Bohlinger and Parkes Brittain

In our society, there are many different opinions about skateboarders, most of which are negative.

Even here at MBA, we skateboarders are met with discrimination. If we went outside to play football, we would be engaged with smiles and waves. On the contrary, when we go out to skateboard,

Most of the damage can be re-painted in a matter of minutes, but football grass takes weeks to grow back. Now, don't get us wrong. We are not cop-haters. We just don't share their opinions about skateboarding.

Now let us talk about the benefits of skateboarding. It provides exercise, whether you are walking to a spot or are running from angry store owners. It is also a lot of fun. When you go skateboarding, you are with tons of friends. Also, when you walk down the street with a skateboarding t-shirt on, other people who skate will come up and talk to you. So, despite what society thinks, we are not all punks, slackers, or menaces to society. To quote professional skateboarder, Josh Kalis:

"Skateboarding contributes to every single style in society these days." We hope this informative piece of journalism has changed your mind about the skateboarding issue. Keep skateboarding, and stick it to the man!

Please visit:

[www.sk8nashville.cjb.net](http://www.sk8nashville.cjb.net) - Thanks



Parkes does a pop-shuvit!!



August Flips over skateboarding!!!

all we get is: "Get out of here before I call the police!" Which brings us to our next subject, THE FUZZ. Security guards constantly are after us. Most of the time, they are park police and are looking for someone to fill their ticket quota with. They find skateboarders as easy prey. Yes, it is true, skateboarding does destroy property, but doesn't football destroy grassy



The Salad Grind

**August Bolinger and Parkes Brittain, along with Michael Shumacher, Max Hinchion, and Van Diehl, are Junior School students who enjoy skateboarding. Talk to them if you want to join the fun.**



# Opinions

## Down with Ageism

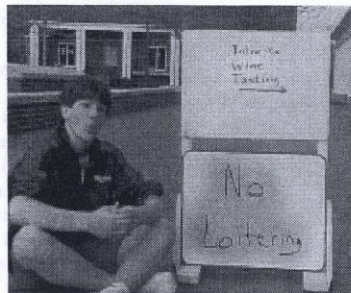
By Ben Turk

In the town of Nashville, Tennessee, there is nothing left to do. We students at MBA just want to have fun with the opposite sex on the weekends, but where can we congregate? The usual routine is to be dropped off at the Green Hills movie area, but now this bleak routine is being tampered with. The main problem is that as soon as a young adult walks into the mall, several security guards begin to harass and follow the innocent child. I can understand that if a young adult walks into the mall, the security guards might pass him, but do four security guards need to follow two young adults into every store they enter? If people want us to act like adults, they should treat us like adults

and give us the respect that we try so hard to earn. If a black man were to walk into a mall,

and four security guards started harassing him, the black man would be able to speak out against the harassment being shown towards him. No one cares about young adults, but we are only the future of this society! I just don't understand why adults are so

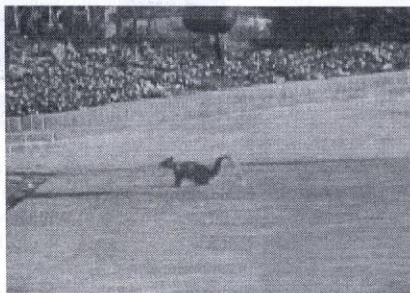
cruel towards the future CEO's and political leaders of America and show ageism. Some adults attempt to be nice to the nation's youth by holding religiously affiliated dances. But what's the point of going? If we are not allowed to express our creative and fun ways of dancing, there is no point in our even going. Come on, it's not like a girl is going to be impregnated by dancing very closely to responsible gentlemen. Wouldn't the adults want



*Doin' nothin' and proud of it!!!*

us to relieve our urges by dancing rather than the alternative? My final point concerns the ridiculousness of the loitering rule. To loiter is to stand in or sit in one place for a long time without having a purpose. Is this not stupid? What's the point of living in a country where

you can't stand in the place you want? I think one of the funnest things to do is to stand in one place without a purpose. So in conclusion, the next time that somebody asks you to stop loitering, tell them that you are just standing there for a reason of nothing.



*What about animals? They loiter, too!!!*

## The "Red Pill"

By Jonathan Cannon

I'm sure that everyone who attended the assembly the week before spring break (the one with Rabbi Kanter, Mr. De Young, and Mr. Whitfield speaking about their religions) noticed the one very obvious difference between Rabbi Kanter's speech and Mr. De Young's speech. Rabbi Kanter's speech was aimed at explaining and exposing Judaism to the audience, while Mr. De Young's speech seemed aimed more at converting non-Christians in the audience. While his speech may have been noble in purpose, I felt, as many others felt, that he crossed the line from commentary

of his religion to promotion of his religion. It is widely known that a main part of the Christian doctrine is that they must convert new members into their religion. With his "red pill" analogy, Mr. De Young clearly explained this concept. However, instead of saying, "Part of our religion is converting new members," just like Mr. Whitfield's speech said, "Converting new members is not part of our religion," he said, "Jesus Christ is this red pill." On a week in which we are supposed to celebrate cultural and religious diversity, Mr. De Young's speech was, in my opinion, counterproductive. With his "red pill" analogy, he claimed religious exclusivity, basically saying: "This is the only religion that is right." When people are given this message, it discourages exploration of other religions, cultures, or creeds.



# The Theory of Relativity: As Simple As Possible

By Derek Pitman

Now, where to begin. Oh, yes. Imagine that you wake up one morning to find that your entire room is gone. Nothing there. Just a void. Do you move? Are you stationary? You can't find out until you can see something else moving. Now, imagine that the bed is back. The bed is with you in this void. Not for long, though, it moves away from you. There is no way to get it back, so you let it go. So now there is something in the void with you. But does the bed move, or do you move? Or, do both of you move? Well, the bed can go any way you imagine. No one can really say who is held stationary and who isn't. Now, imagine the bed is gone but now the sun is there. I can imagine you think the sun is stationary and you are not. It's easier to move a body like ours, and not so easy to kick something around like the sun. But, like the bed, no one can say who is held stationary and who is free. But listen! The sun gives off rays. So, look at how fast the rays pass you. Now, you can

notice how fast you move. Because, you see, rays move the same speed, regardless if what gives the rays off is stationary or not. Okay, big point. Rays all move the same. The constant for that speed is "c". Now, you have a reading lamp. The lamp can be in your hand, and see how fast the rays move when you turn it on. The lamp moves as you do, but the rays given off move at "c". Therefore, all motion is in

progress, yet we cannot see it. Rays can also move at this "c", no matter what is giving them off.

P.S.- There is a



*Is this paper really here? Am I moving or is it just the paper!*

simple formula to sum all of this up. Can you guess it?



*Congrats to the Thurmonds on the birth of their baby, Wade Thurmond!*

## Congratulations new Junior Honor Society Inductees

Andy Alsentzer,  
Brock Baker,  
William Chapman,  
Cotton Clark,  
Paul Crook,  
Jed Crumbo,  
Jack Eakin,  
Chris Gioia,  
Jonathan Gotterer,  
Richard Greathouse,  
Alex Lamballe,  
Kyle Mayo,  
Daniel Patten,  
Andrew Pitman,  
Jonathan Ray,  
Tripp Rebrovick,  
Craig Stewart,  
Brian Syverud,  
Caldwell Tanner,  
Hughes Tipton,  
Jake Wright,  
Jesse Wright

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